

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 RABAT 01700 141310 Z

53

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W  
----- 071909

R 141240 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8764

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

USINT ALGIERS

CINCEUR

CINCUSAFE

S E C R E T RABAT 1700

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR MASS SP MO ( LOPEZ BRAVO, GREGORIO)

SUBJECT: SPANISH F-5 S TO MOROCCO

REF: STATE 069042

1. WE BELIEVE SPANISH FEARS REGARDING SOVIET PRESENCE IN MOROCCO ARE EXAGGERATED. IN OUR VIEW GOM GENUINELY DOES NOT DESIRE ENLARGED SOVIET PRESENCE AND WISHES AVOID BECOMING DEPENDENT UPON USSR FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT. JUDGING BY RECENT PRESS REPORTS WE THINK IT QUITE LIKELY THERE WILL BE SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN MOROCCAN FISHING INDUSTRY BUT DO NOT BELIEVE IT POSSIBLE UNDER PRESENT REGIME OR EVEN QADHAFI- TYPE REGIME ( WERE SUCH TO BE CONCEIVABLE IN MOROCCO) THAT MOROCCANS WOULD GRANT NAVAL OR OTHER BASE FACILITIES TO SOVIETS.

2. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO SPANISH SUPPLY OF F- 5 S TO MOROCCANS. WE ARE NOT SURE SPANISH MOTIVES ARE AS STATED AND IT UNCLEAR TO US WHY KING HASSAN WOULD MAKE  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 RABAT 01700 141310 Z

HIMSELF BEHOLDEN TO SPANIARDS AT TIME WHEN OPPOSITION ATTITUDE TOWARD THEM ON SAHARA AND FISHING PROBLEMS VERY UNFAVORABLE. IF HE IS FORCED TO MODIFY HIS POSITION ON THOSE ISSUES IN RETURN FOR AIRCRAFT, IT WOULD WEAKEN HIM. NEVERTHELESS, THINK IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE BOTH IN TERMS OUR INTERESTS AND IN TERMS MOROCCAN ABILITY SUPPORT AIRCRAFT FOR LATTER TO ACQUIRE F-5 S RATHER THAN MIG 23 S FROM SOVIETS OR MIRAGES FROM FRANCE ( NOT THAT WE THINK EITHER OF THESE AIRCRAFT LIKELY TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THEM). ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT THINK F-5 PARTICULARLY USEFUL AGAINST URBAN DISCONTENT, WHICH IS PERHAPS MOST SERIOUS OF KING HASSAN' S PROBLEMS, IT WOULD BE USEFUL AGAINST GUERRILLAS IN COUNTRYSIDE, PROVIDING THEY THERE IN SUFFICIENT NUMBERS TO BE SEEN FROM AIR. WE FURTHERMORE FEEL THAT POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE POSITION ON OUR PART, I. E., BLOCKING SALE, WOULD BE UNDESIRABLE, PARTICULARLY AFTER EFFORT WE HAVE MADE THROUGH BENHIMA AND NEWSOM VISITS TO CONVINCE REGIME OF OUR INTEREST IN ITS WELL- BEING.

3. IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO HAVE CLEARER PICTURE SPANISH MOTIVES IN SUPPLYING AIRCRAFT IN QUESTION. IS IT LIKELY, FOR INSTANCE, THAT THEY FAVORING SALE BECAUSE THEY WOULD PREFER HAVE F-5 TO CONTEND WITH RATHER THAN MORE SOPHISTICATED MIRAGES OR MIG 23 IN UNLIKELY EVENT HOSILITIES WITH MOROCCO, OR DO THEY ALSO EXPECT SOME TRADE- OFF IN TERMS MOROCCAN FISHING, SPANISH ENCLAVES AND SPANISH SAHARA? WE NOT THAT SPANIARDS PLAN TO SELL AIRCRAFT. WHAT WILL THEIR TERMS BE? WE ARE NOT QUESTIONING LEGITIMACY GOS MOTIVES, BUT BELIEVE EXPLANATION GIVEN BY LOPEZ BRAVO ONLY PART OF PICTURE.

4. THIS MESSAGE COORDINATED WITH MUSLO AND DATT. ROCKWELL

SECRET

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* EXDIS

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973RABAT01700  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** XS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** RABAT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730443/aaaaipbj.tel  
**Line Count:** 103  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 73 STATE 069042  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** WITHDRAWN <01-Aug-2001 by reddocgw, EXDIS>; RELEASED <30-Nov-2001 by golinofr>; APPROVED <30-Nov-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980120  
**Subject:** SPANISH F-5 S TO MOROCCO  
**TAGS:** MASS, PFOR, MO, SP, (LOPEZ BRAVO, GREGORIO)  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC  
SS INFO ALGIERS  
LONDON  
MADRID  
MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

